

MONO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Monday, August 14, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Town / County Conference Room
Mammoth Lakes, California

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present

Skip Harvey, Chair
John Eastman, Town Councilman
Wendy Sugimura, Town Councilman
Byng Hunt, Supervisor
Hap Hazard, Vice Chair
Vikki Magee-Bauer, Supervisor

Caltrans

Brad Mettam
Ryan Dermody
Brian McElwain
Mark Reistetter

Staff Present

Scott Burns, Director
Gerry LeFrancois, Mono County Planner
Lynetta Fuerst, Secretary
Kelly Garcia, Mono County Public Works
Bill Manning, Transportation Director, TML
Peter Bernasconi, Engineer, TML
Ray Jarvis, Director Public Works, TML
Monicka Watterson, Inyo Mono Transit

Others

Mary Canada, Sierra Business Council
Sam Mudie, Sierra Cycling Foundation
Steve Ganong, Sierra Cycling Foundation

Agenda items may not have been taken in order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harvey at 9:10 a.m., followed by Commissioner Hazard leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Ganong and Sam Mudie from the Sierra Cycling Foundation spoke to the Commission regarding the Fall Century Ride. Stated the event was returning to the level of participation of previous years. Highway 120 is the least congested Century Ride in the country and riders love it. Thanked Caltrans for the paving improvements scheduled for this year and next. The club is excited about the FHA considering "uphill climbing" lanes. Thanked Caltrans, Town of Mammoth

Lakes, Mono County Public Works and Planning and the LTC for their support. Mr. Mudie also requested the Commission revisit the idea of a part time or full time cycle coordinator. Commissioner Harvey suggested a campaign to get the word out about proper and safe cycling in Town, crosswalks not cross rides. Rental locations could hand out safety flyers and maybe a school program to educate the students. Mary Canada from Sierra Business Council announced a possible project regarding Historical and Cultural tourism. There are nine historical museums from Lone Pine to Bridgeport. A meeting in October at Manzanar is scheduled for the Museum Directors to discuss a Museum Guide. Would the Mono County LTC have interest? Commissioner Eastman explained it could be agendaized at a later date.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 26, 2006

Commissioner Hunt motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Eastman. Passed 4/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Hazard, and Hunt. Commissioners Harvey and Sugimura abstained.

3. TRANSIT

a. Inyo Mono Transit

1. Presentation of FY 2006-07 Budget

Ms. Watterson reviewed last year's accomplishments for the Commission and presented the current FY 2006-07 County and Town budget. With increased STA funds, expansion of the fourth day of CREST, and 5311 increased funding the budget did not increase. The shared pilot project from Lee Vining/June Lake to Mammoth has not been included.

2. Review options for the Lee Vining / June Lake to Mammoth route

The Commissioners asked questions of Ms. Watterson concerning the four options for the new pilot project. With having to hire and train drivers, procure vehicles it was logistically best to start the route in either November or December. Commissioner Hazard addressed workforce transportation and felt the route should be as aggressive as we could afford in order to capture the largest ridership possible. Commissioner Harvey asked how long the round trip route would take, about 2 hours is estimated. The route layout has not been determined yet. The new bus (arriving any day) for the summer Bridgeport to Carson City route could be used to start, but back up buses will be needed. Commissioner Hunt inquired about using a flexible or rigid schedule. Ms. Watterson explained the times will be fixed, but changes may occur as the ridership develops. She will be using a deviated fixed route to accommodate the mobility impaired. The Commission agreed to the funding amount of \$ 47,525 and starting around December 1st. This was adopted in the following resolutions.

b. Consider/adopt Resolution 2006-09A apportioning Local Transportation Funds for FY 2006-07

Commissioner Bauer motioned to adopt Resolution 2006-9A apportioning Local Transportation and STA funds including the June Lake route apportionment of \$47,525. Seconded by Commissioner Eastman. Passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

c. Consider/adopt Resolution 2006-10A allocating Local Transportation Funds for FY 2006-07

Commissioner Hunt moved to adopt Resolution 2006-10A allocating Local Transportation and STA fund including the June Lake route allocation of \$47,525. Seconded by Commissioner Bauer. Voted and passed 6/0. Those in favor: Bauer, Eastman, Harvey, Hazard, Hunt and Sugimura.

d. Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) update
Commissioner Bauer explained YARTS is still operating in the red since the Hwy 140 slide. YARTS has identified Caltrans as the best funding source since they are in need of emergency funding. The YARTS board decided to send an official invitation letter to the four non-participating counties and see if there is interest. At this time the USFS supports YARTS with \$250,000 a year. Commissioner Bauer continued explaining the "ESETS" (Eastern Sierra Expanded Transit System) document initiated by Sandy Hogan of the USFS. In order to have expanded transit Inyo and Mono County need to form a Joint Powers Authority. The National Park and Forest Service have money for transit, but need to see a plan in place. Planning money from the USFS could be available to help set up the JPA.

e. Joint Powers Authority (JPA) update

Mr. Manning stated the governing document for the JPA is coming together. The four partners are working on the employee package which will benefit all. The JPA has been awarded a grant for technical assistance in planning the JPA. The four parties of the JPA are Inyo, Bishop, Mono and Mammoth Lakes.

4. ADMINISTRATION

a. Discuss LTC Commissioner's handbook

Mr. LeFrancois explained the handbook is like a procedure manual which includes history of the LTC. The Commissioners agreed to review the handbook and bring back comments to the October or November meeting for adoption.

b. Provide direction regarding update of MOU concerning LTC staff services

Mr. Burns mentioned the MOU between the County and Town for staff services to the LTC has expired. Consensus from the Commission to continue the MOU. Mr. Burns will provide a new MOU for the Commission and Town Council.

5. STATE / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

a. Quarterly update on projects in the Town of Mammoth Lakes

Mr. Bernasconi provided a summary for the Commission. The Lake Mary Bike Path will be a two year project coordinated with the USFS. The new Welcome Center will be operational for the USFS in August with a ribbon cutting ceremony in the fall.

b. Quarterly update on projects in Mono County

Ms. Garcia updated the Commission on the seven county projects. The Lee Vining and Bridgeport Flashing Beacons project is completed. Construction is scheduled for Lundy Lake Road and June Lake Streetscape. Commissioner Hazard inquired about the Owens Gorge Road and what was programmed. He felt the Owens Gorge Road could be used as an emergency response road from Crowley Lake to the Tri Valley area.

6. CALTRANS

a. Update on activities in Mono County including quarterly report

Mr. Reistetter provided a handout and explained the status of each project. Mr. Mettam went on to explain the four lane MOU projects. The Blackrock 4 lane is scheduled for 07/08 and will run south of Big Pine to the north of Independence.

7. COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

a. Discussion on Black Point cinders by USFS – Molly Brown
To be re-scheduled.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Caltrans Director Kempton and Commissioner Skip Harvey
- b. Distribute LTC audit

9. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

10. ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.